

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-13
ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00
PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00
INRE-00 ACDA-12 HA-05 AID-05 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /124 W
-----005109 021325Z /23

O R 021145Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 5786
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
USMISSION USUN
USINT HAVANA
CINCPAC
DIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOGADISCIO 0218

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PBOR, ET, SO, US, UR
SUBJ: THIRD GSDR APPEAL FOR INTERVENTION IN THE HORN

1. SOMALIA VIEWS THE AIR ATTACKS ON NORTHERN SOMALIA IN THE
LAST FEW DAYS AS A PRELUDE TO AN ATTACK DESIGNED TO ISOLATE DJIBOUTI.
THE GSDR ONCE MORE APPEALS FOR UNITED STATES INTERVENTION. HE FEARS
ITS

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MESSAGES ARE NOT HEARD. EMBASSY SUGGESTS IT RESPOND ON INSTRUCTIONS
TO THE SOMALI MESSAGES OUTLINING USG POLICY, ACTIVITY AND UNDERSCORING

OUR CONCERNS.

2. CMJRGAS WAS SUMMONED TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRY FEB 2 BY ACTING
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR GENERAL ABDI RAHMAN HUSSEIN WHO MADE A FRESH

PRESENTATION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SOMALI DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC'S (GSDR) WARNING THAT A SOVIET ATTACK ON SOMALIA IS IMMINENT. ABDIMD SAID THE PRESENT AIR RAIDS ON NORTHERN AND NORTHWEST SOMALIA ARE A PRELUDE TO AN IMPENDING OFFENSIVE. SPECIFICALLY HE ASSERTED:

A. THERE HAVE BEEN EIGHT DIFFERENT AIR ATTACKS ON DEFENSELESS SOMALI TOWNS AND VILLAGES. ON JANUARY 31, MIG 21 AND MIG 23 AIRCRAFT STRAFFED AND BOMBED THE TOWNS OF BORAMA AND HARERA IN NORTHWEST SOMALIA. MANY WOMEN, CHILDREN, AND AGED PEOPLE WERE KILLED. PROPERTY DAMAGE WAS ENORMOUS.

B. THESE AIRCRAFT CANNOT BE PILOTED BY ETHIOPIANS. RUSSIANS OR CUBANS, OR BOTH, MUST BE FLYING THESE PLANES.

C. THE PURPOSE OF THESE RAIDS IS TO DEMORALIZE INHABITANTS, AND PREPARE FOR A DRIVE WHICH WILL ISOLATE DJIBOUTI WHICH WILL THEN FALL UNDER SOVIET INFLUENCE.

D. A SOVIET SUCCESS WILL INJURE NOT ONLY SOMALIA, BUT THE UNITED STATES AND THE WEST AS WELL. THE SOVIETS INTEND NOT ONLY TO CONTROL SOMALIA, BUT TO AFFECT NAVIGATION IN THE INDIAN OCEAN AND ON THE RED SEA.

E. THE SOVIETS CAN NO LONGER DENY THLAIPAN BECAUSE IT WAS CONFIRMED
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BY THE CUBAN PRISONER CARLOS ORLANDO WHO SPOKE TO THE WESTERN PRESS.

F. THE GSDR HAS CONTINUED TO KEEP THE UNITED STATES INFORMED IN THE CERTAINTY THAT THE TRUTH OF THE GSDR WARNINGS WILL BECOME EVIDENT.

3. ABDI THEN PAUSED AND SAID, THE GSDR ONCE MORE REQUESTS THE UNITED STATES TO INTERVENE BEFORE THE SITUATION BECOMES MORE COMPLICATED. THE GSDR IS DEFENDING THE FREE WORLD IN DEFENDING SOMALIA, AND WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THE HELP AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE WEST, AND IN PARTICULAR THE UNITED STATES. ABDI ASSERTED THERE IS NO INDEPENDENT ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT. HAILLE MIRIAM, HE CONTENDED, WILL ONLY SAY WHAT HIS SOVIET MENTORS WISH HIM TO SAY. THE GSDR, ABDI CONTINUED, WANTS PEACE IN THE HORN.

4. ABDI SAID A TELEGRAM WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THESE REMARKS WAS SENT TO THE OAU ON FEBRUARY 1 WITH THE REQUEST THAT IT BE CIRCULATED TO ALL OAU MEMBERS.

5. WHILE SCORTING THE CHARGE TO THE DOOR, ABDI SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO ADD THAT THE WAR HAS NOW BECOME A CONFLICT BETWEEN THE WARSAW PACT AND SOMALIA. "WE HAVE APPEALED TO THE UNITED

STATES" HE ADDED, "BUT SOMETIMES WE FEEL YOU ARE NOT LISTENING".
THE SOMALI DIPLOMAT CLOSED WITH A PLEA THAT THE UNITED STATES GIVE
URGENT AND SERIOUS CONSIDERATION TO THE MATTER.

6. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH CAREFUL TO TELL THE CHARGE THAT THE MES-
SAGE CONVEYED WAS AT THE EXPRESS WISH OF THE FOREIGN MINISTER,
ABDI'S APPEAL THIS NOON REPRESENTED SOME DOWNGRADING OF ESSENTIAL-
LY THE SAME MESSAGU, FIRST DELIVERED BY PRESIDENT SIAD ON JAN. 16,
THEN BY FOREIGN MINISTER JAMA BARRE ON THE 25TH. TAKEN TOGETHER
WITH PRESIDENT SIAD'S REMARKS TO ANAUD DEBORCHGRAVE, SEPTTEL, IT
INDICATES CHAGRIN THAT THE GSDR MESSAGE IS, IN THE SOMALI PERCEP-
TION AT LEAST, NOT BEING HEARD. (OTHER WESTERN MISSION CHIEFS,
WE UNDERSTAND, ARE ALSO BEING CKFLED IN TOUAY.) THE EMBASSY
RECOMMENDS THAT IT BE AUTHORIZED TO DRAW ON GUIDANCE
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SUCH AS STATE 027444, WHICH UNFORTUNATELY ARRIVED AFTER THE
SESSION AT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY, TO REEMPHASIZE TO THE SOMALIS OUR
CONCERN FOR THE PROBLEM AND UNDERSCORE OUR ACTIVITY. WE SHOULD ALSO
LIKE
TO DRAW SELECTIVELY FROM OTHER DOCUMENTATION (R.S.F. POST'S JAN
19 MEMORANDUM TO AMBASSADOR LOUGHRAN) IF AGREEABLE TO THE DEPT.
AT ANY RATE, WE BELIEVE WE OUGHT PROVIDE THE GSDR
SOME ANSWER ON INSTRUCTIONS HERE IN RESPONSE TO ITS REPRESENTATIONS,
EVEN IF THAT ANSWER MAY NOT BE THE RESPONSE THE GSDR WOULD LIKE TO HE
AR.
VOUGHT

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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